

CLAIMS

1. Use of cardiotrophin-1 (CT-1), or of a polynucleotide sequence that expresses and codes for CT-1 in the manufacture of a composition that can be used for stimulating hepatic regeneration.
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2. Use of cardiotrophin-1 (CT-1), or of a polynucleotide sequence that expresses and codes for CT-1 in the manufacture of a composition that can be used as a hepatoprotective agent.
- 10 3. Use according to claim 1, in the manufacture of a composition that can be used for stimulating hepatic regeneration after surgical hepatectomy.
4. Use according to any one of the claims 1 and 2 in the manufacture of a composition that can be used for the treatment of chronic liver diseases of any
15 etiology.
5. Use according to any one of the claims 1, 2 and 4 in the manufacture of a composition that can be used for the treatment of acute, subacute, fulminant or chronic hepatitis of viral, metabolic or toxic etiology.
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6. Use according to any one of the claims 1, 2 and 4 in the manufacture of a composition that can be used for the treatment of hepatic cirrhoses.
7. Use according to any one of the claims 1 and 2 in the manufacture of a
25 composition that can be used for the treatment of the hepatic function of a transplanted liver.
8. Use according to any one of the claims 1 and 2 in the manufacture of a composition that can be used for the treatment of intrahepatic tumors.
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9. Use according to any one of the claims 1 to 8 in the manufacture of a composition that includes a viral vector bearing a polynucleotide sequence that expresses and codes for CT-1.
- 35 10. Use according to claim 9 characterized in that the viral vector is an adenovirus.

11. A method of cultivating hepatocytes, characterized in that CT-1 or a viral vector bearing a polynucleotide sequence that expresses and codes for CT-1 is added to the medium.